

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1-31 (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Claim 31, further comprising~~ A method for filtering e-mail messages transmitted from an external site to an internal site associated with a first policy, comprising:

- i. intercepting a plurality of data packets associated with an e-mail message having a sender address associated with an external site;
- ii. assembling said data packets to an application level message;
- iii. detecting whether the application level message includes a digital signature attachment;
- iv. applying at least one policy condition to said application level e-mail message, said policy condition applied by reference to said attached digital signature, said applying providing a policy application result;
- v. applying at least a second policy condition to said application level e-mail message in response to a predetermined condition of the attached digital signature, the second policy condition selected ~~selecting the second policy condition~~ by reference to an identity associated with the valid digital signature;
- vi. detecting that the digital signature is a valid digital signature; and
- vii. processing said application level e-mail message in accordance with said applying.

33. (Currently Amended) ~~the method of Claim 30, wherein the second policy condition detects~~ A method for filtering e-mail messages transmitted from an external site to an internal site associated with a first policy, comprising:

- i. intercepting a plurality of data packets associated with an e-mail message having a sender address associated with an external site;
- ii. assembling said data packets to an application level message;

- iii. detecting whether the application level message includes a digital signature attachment;
- iv. applying at least one policy condition to said application level e-mail message, said policy condition applied by reference to said attached digital signature, said applying providing a policy application result;
- v. applying a second policy for detecting whether the attached signature is associated with a domain which is included in a stored list of trusted domains; and
- vi. processing said application level e-mail message in accordance with said applying.